

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR APPLICATION-LEVEL SECURITY

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 Software applications having a hierarchy of functions, sub-function and sub-sub-
functions that are made available to one or more clients. The ability of the clients to
utilize the various functionality of the applications is controlled by an application security
database system (ASDS) which maintains a database of application function hierarchy
and client entitlements. The applications consult with the ASDS to determine whether a
10 client's user is authorized to perform a requested function and either performs, or fails to
perform, the requested function based on the reply from the ASDS. In particular, rules
regarding access to proprietary data associated with different functionality are also
maintained by the ASDS. The client entitlements are associated with the end-users of the
clients not by user name but, rather, by user roles reflecting the business structure of the
15 client.